LUD 5543.3 JEL/NDH (10027207)

similarity that SEQ ID NO: 7 was used to isolate SEQ ID NO: 24. Please see page 23, example 22. Hence, there is shared structural similarities.

The data in the application also support shared properties, such as the ability to activate STAT 3. Hence, there is shared function as well.

In view of this, the restriction between Groups I and III should be withdrawn.

AMENDMENT

Further to the remarks, supra, please replace claim 1 by the following:

Claim 1: An isolated nucleic acid molecule which encodes a T cell inducible factor which activates STAT 3, the complementary sequence of which hybridizes, under stringent conditions, to at least one of SEQ ID NO: 7, SEQ ID NO: 8, SEQ ID NO: 24 or SEQ ID NO: 25.

Add claim 50 as follows:

Claim 50: The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 1, wherein said T cell inducible factor which activates STAT 3, has a molecule weight of from about 17 to about 30 kilodaltons, as determined by SDS-PAGE.

REMARKS

Entry of the amendment is requested. A showing of changes accompanies these papers.

Respectfully submitted,

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D.C. 20231 on April 8, 2002.

Laurie Olds

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Applicant

L. DUMOUTIER, et al.

Serial No.

09/751,797

Filed

December 29, 2000

For

ISOLATED NUCLEIC ACID MOLECULES WHICH ENCODE T

CELL INDUCIBLE FACTORS (TIFs), THE PROTEINS

ENCODED, AND USES THEREOF

Art Unit

1644

Examiner

Amy Decloux

April 8, 2002

Hon. Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks Washington, D.C. 20231

SIR:

SHOWING OF CHANGES

Claim 1: (Amended) An isolated nucleic acid molecule which encodes a T cell inducible factor which activates STAT 3, the complementary sequence of which hybridizes, under stringent conditions, to at least one of SEQ ID NO: 7, SEQ ID NO: 8, [SEQ ID NO: 9, SEQ ID NO: 29] SEQ ID NO: 24 or SEQ ID NO: 25.

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